I am not typically a song writer, in fact this is the first one I have ever written, but I was definitely lead to share these words with you. This song is all about knowing where we have come from and getting to where we are going and how throughout our entire lives we cannot escape God’s love. We are to rest on these words:

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”

– Isaiah 43: 18-19

I am living proof that the help from group homes for troubled teenagers can really make a positive difference in your teenager’s and your family’s lives. I started out wanting and attempting to kill myself. Then I was sent to Looking Forward, I didn’t even know that places like that existed!! I hated it, I hated Helen and Mark, I hated my family, and I hated myself. I couldn’t imagine my life getting any better and I certainly wasn’t going to let it get any worse! So I told myself that I would try killing myself again, as soon as I got out of there.

Well, God had a different plan for me!

It wasn’t an immediate thing though. I was hesitant to believe what Helen and Mark believed and to accept what they accepted. I just didn’t understand what they were talking about. Eventually I had the courage to ask Helen about God and eventually I accepted Him into my heart. Let me tell you something—that is the best decision that you could ever make in your entire life!!! So if you haven’t made that important decision yet, talk to someone. ☺ After that, my struggles didn’t go away…. I’m still in counseling. Things are different now though, I know that God is on my side and He will help me through my life.

Through my experience with group homes I have learned so much and come so far. I WAS broken; broken by my family and broken by my lack of faith. I owe God for everything--the fact that I’m alive, that I have met Helen and Mark, and that I could be standing before you today—I could never repay Him.

I know what I have gone through in my past but I also know that I don’t ever want to go back to that… and I won’t!! God has saved me more times that I could ever count and He will save me countless other times in my future; so I’m choosing Him to be my “present”- to live for Him. Thank you for all you have done in my life, thank you that I still have a life to live, thank you that my past DOESN’T define my future, thank you for today, thank you for my hope, just thank you.

~Charlotte

**I’M OK**

[verse 1]

ya ever feel like,

you ain’t ever gonna know a thing?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

you’re falling into an endless pit?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

your life is on a hold?

oh-no-no

You.pulled.me.out

of the depths of MY despair

made me feel safe

when I thought I was alone

You.saved.me!

from myself

oh-ho-yeah

so now, I don’t feel

hope-less

and though things aren’t

per-fect

at least I can breathe now

[chorus]

unafraid

I’m ok

that’s where I am today

because of You

I’m ok

I am alive today

[verse 2]

ya ever feel like,

cryin’ but there are no tears?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

this nightmare needs to end?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

just giving up on your life?

oh-no-no

You.pulled.me.out

of the pain that cut so deep

made me feel free

when I thought I was stuck

You.saved.me!

from myself

oh-ho-yeah

so now, I don’t feel

help-less

and though things are

still tough

at least I can breathe now

[chorus]

unafraid

I’m ok

That’s where I am today

Because of You

I’m ok

I am alive today

[verse 3]

ya ever feel like,

you past defines your future?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

all you want are answers?

yeah-e-yeah

ya ever feel like,

you just can’t forgive?

oh-no-no

You.fill.me.up!

With Your unending love

make me feel alive

now I know I’m safe

You.save.me

every single day

oh-ho-yeah

so now, I feel

hope-ful

and though life is

still attackin’

at least I can pray now

[chorus]

unafraid

I’m ok

that’s where I am today

because of You

I’m ok

I am alive today

[bridge]

so I don’t have to wonder

I don’t have to worry

cuz I know,

that I’ve got You-

in my heart forever (3X)

[chorus]

unafraid

I’m ok

that’s where I am today

because of You

I’m ok

I am alive today

ya ever feel like,

things might just work out?